

ABSTRACT

CD40 ASSOCIATED PROTEINS

The present invention provides a mammalian CD40-associated protein (CAP), a nucleic acid molecule 5 encoding the CAP and antibodies specific for the CAP. The invention further provides a substantially purified human CAP-1 and a nucleic acid molecule encoding human CAP-1. The invention also provides screening assays for identifying an agent that effectively alters the 10 association of a CAP with a second molecule, which can bind to the CAP. In addition, the invention provides methods for identify a CAP agonist or CAP antagonist that can increase or decrease, respectively, the level of expression of the CAP in a cell. Such an effective 15 agent, agonist or antagonist can modulate a function of a cell such as a humoral immune response or cell growth. The invention also provides methods of detecting a CAP in a sample by detecting the CAP or a nucleic acid molecule encoding the CAP. Such methods can be used to diagnose a 20 pathology that is characterized by an increased or decreased level of a CAP in a cell.